

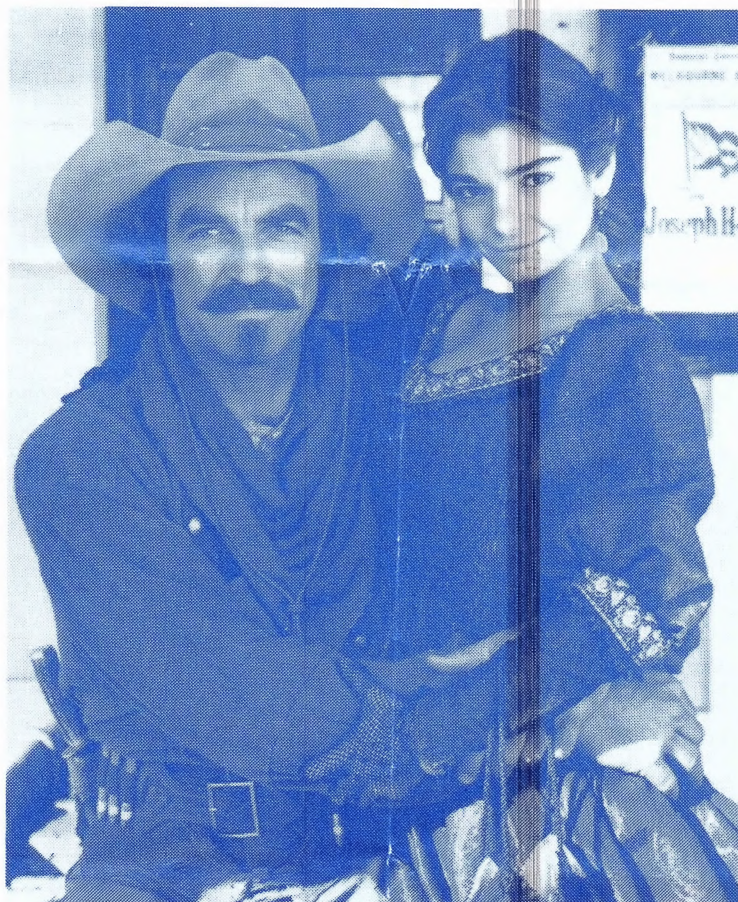
# AN AMERICAN WESTERN IN AUSTRALIA

QUIGLEY distinguishes itself from other films of this genre as it is an American western set in 1860's Australia. In addition to which, it actually uses the country as a character unto itself. While the protagonists are Americans, the events in the story are uniquely Australian; its geography and its history playing integral roles in the film.

"The script had gone through so many drafts that it felt very unnatural, almost farcical, very much an outsider's view of what Australia must be like," explains director Simon Wincer, one of Australia's leading filmmakers ("The Man From Snowy River", "Phar Lap") and an Emmy Award-winner for the acclaimed television miniseries "Lonesome Dove." "But at its heart there was a great story," Wincer enthuses. "I agreed to take on the picture, with Tom Selleck as Quigley, on a condition that we could make the film accurately Australian, as opposed to an American western superimposed on Australia."

While QUIGLEY is a fictional tale, Wincer notes, "The film is historical without being 'a history.' We went back to the original script and included many events which actually occurred in Australia's history. American soldiers of fortune did come to Australia, as well as the English, the Irish, Germans and Spanish. It was the Last Frontier in every sense. Quigley became a wonderful, unlikely Australian legend."

For producer Alex Rose, QUIGLEY was a project she found compelling in many ways. "The main character embodies values and heroic qualities which every man and woman likes to feel he or she carries within," she explains. "Quigley is uncompromising.



He has a strong belief system and can't be swayed by power or money to do something he doesn't want to do. Cora, on the other hand, is unconventional and unbridled, and that allows for a lot of interpretation, and for her to become something very special on screen.

"When I first read the script, four or five years ago, I wanted to do it, to play Quigley," recalls Tom Selleck. "Some movies don't get made right away and some float around for years and never get made. But this script was too good not to. It had to get made. The picture never left my mind."

Laura San Giacomo, who won acclaim for her performances in "Sex, Lies and Videotape" and "Pretty Woman", welcomed the chance to play Crazy Cora in QUIGLEY. "This is an incredible character" the actress notes. "She appears crazy to other people because she has never come to terms with a trauma she experienced in her past. She's trying to put the pieces of her life back together, to rewrite her own history."

For his part, Selleck shares, "Laura is a terrific actress. She's uniquely qualified for this role because she can appear to be like an innocent little girl one minute and a mature, complex woman the next. She also has a wonderful sense of humour, which also helps give her character, and her character's relationship with Quigley, nice depth."

Director Wincer, in turn, has great praise for his actors. "Tom's a thinking man's actor. While he's done a great deal of research on his character, he's very natural in the role. I can't imagine another actor better suited to play Matthew Quigley. And I think Tom Selleck is just the sort of actor who can help bring the western back."

## ABOUT THE STORY

His name is Matthew Quigley (Tom Selleck). Arguably the best sharpshooter of his time, he left America and travelled halfway around the world to Australia to work for a wealthy cattle rancher named Marston (Alan Rickman).

It's the Old West with new rules in this land down under where "aborigine" and "dingo" are just different ways of saying "red man" and "coyote." Arriving with nothing more than his saddle and his prized six-foot Sharp's rifle, it takes no time at all for Quigley to learn that a liar's a liar in any country, and a woman's a woman,

no matter where you go.

They call her Crazy Cora (Laura San Giacomo). A woman with a dark past and a uncertain future, she is untamed and beautiful as the country she now calls home.

When the man who hired him wants him dead, Quigley must battle both man and nature to prove that with steady nerves, a sure aim and few words, no one gets the better of Matthew Quigley - no one, that is, except for a mysterious woman who thinks he's a ghost of a man named Roy.

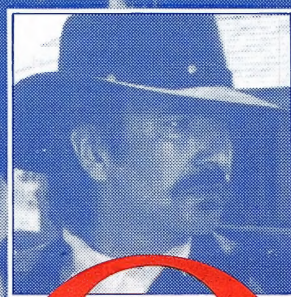
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OUTBACK  
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the provocative beauty  
of "sex, lies and videotape"  
and ALAN RICKMAN  
the unforgettable  
villain of "Die Hard"  
in a Big Screen Adventure  
by the Emmy Award  
winning director of  
"Lonesome Dove"



# QUIGLEY

LAURA SAN GIACOMO

ALAN RICKMAN



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OCCASIONAL  
VIOLENCE

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Directed by SIMON WINCER

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